

Old Age, Disability, Death

First law: 1935 (1919 legislation never implemented).
Current laws: 1993 (1980 social pensions for noncontributors), 1985 (integrated agricultural workers into general system) and 1989 (new voluntary insurance).
Type of program: Social insurance system.
Exchange rate: U.S.\$1.00 equals 159.60 escudos.

Coverage

Employed persons and self-employed.
Special systems for miners, longshoremen, railway workers, fishermen, and merchant seamen.
Voluntary coverage available to persons not covered by any other contributory program.
Social pension: All persons not covered under a contributory pension program.
Special systems will gradually be unified with general system.

Source of Funds

Insured person: 11% of earnings (self-employed, 21%.) The percentage will be gradually increased to 24.5% for mandatory coverage and 32% for voluntary coverage over the next 5 years.
Employer: 23.75% of payroll. Includes 0.5% to cover employment-related illness.
Government: Subsidy of social pension and health care.
The combined contribution is divided between the different branches as follows: old age 13.9%; disability 6.9%; survivors 4.1%; sickness 3.3%; maternity 0.5%; work injury (employment-related illness only) 0.5%; unemployment 3.5%; and family allowances 2.8%.
Voluntary insurance: 16% of elected amount, ranging from 1 to 4 times the minimum wage, plus 0.5% to cover employment-related illness.

Qualifying Conditions

Old-age pension: Age 65 (men and women), 180 months of contributions. Pension payable at age 60 if unemployment benefit has been depleted.
Other special retirement ages: Miners 50; longshoremen, fishermen, and merchant seamen 55.
Retirement from covered employment necessary until age 70. Payable abroad.
Note: Normal retirement age for women will rise gradually at the rate of 6 months per year between 1994 and 1999.
Disability pension: Loss of 2/3 of earning capacity (66.67%). 60 months of contribution. Payable abroad.
Survivor pension: Deceased met pension requirements or was pensioner at death. Payable abroad.
Voluntary insurance: Old-age pension payable at age 65 (men and women). 144 months of contributions.
Disability and survivor pensions require 72 months of contributions.
Social pension: Age 65, disabled (age 18 or older). No coverage under any contributory social security program.
Monthly income may not exceed 30% of national minimum wage for single person or 50% for couple.
Not payable abroad, except if specified by agreement.

Old-Age Benefits

Old-age pension: 2% of average annual earnings during highest 10 of last 15 years times years of insurance.
Minimum monthly pension: 30% of average earnings or 27,600 escudos, whichever is higher. Maximum monthly pension: 80% of average earnings.
Supplement for dependent spouse: 4,200 escudos a month. Paid only to those who had already been qualified under the previous program of decree-law 329/93.
Schedule of payments: 13th month payment each Christmas; 14th month payment each July.
Supplement for assistance provided by a third person: 9,650 escudos.
Adjustment: According to changes in annual cost-of-living.
Social pension (income-tested): 17,500 escudos a month (plus 8,150 escudos if constant attendance needed).

Permanent Disability Benefits

Disability pension: 2% of average annual earnings during highest 10 of last 15 years times years of insurance. Minimum monthly pension: 30% of average earnings or 27,600 escudos, whichever is higher. Maximum monthly pension: 80% of average earnings.
Supplement for dependent spouse: 4,200 escudos a month.
Constant-attendance supplement: 9,650 escudos a month.
Schedule of payments: 13th month payment each Christmas; 14th month payment each July.
Adjustment: According to changes in annual cost-of-living.
Social pension (income-tested): 17,500 escudos a month (plus 8,150 escudos if constant attendance needed).

Survivor Benefits

Survivor pension: 60% of pension of insured. Limited to 5 years to widow unless over age 35, disabled, or caring for child. Equally paid to widow or widower.
Orphans: 20% of insured's pension for 1st, 30% for 2, and 40% for 3 or more orphans under age 18 (25 if student, no limit if disabled); maximum, 40%, 60% or 80% if full orphans.
Parents or grandparents: Combined pensions total 30%, 50%, or 80% of insured's pension, according to whether there are 1, 2, or 3 beneficiaries.
Maximum survivor pensions: 100% of pension of insured.
Supplement for assistance provided by a third person: 9,650 escudos.
Schedule of payments: 13th month payment each Christmas; 14th month payment each July.
Death grant: An amount equal to 6 times average monthly earnings during the best 2 of the last 5 years.
Social pension for widows (income-tested): 60% of normal social pension.
Social pension for orphans: Combined benefit totals 20%, 30%, or 40%, of normal social pension.

Administrative Organization

Ministry of Employment and Social Security, general supervision through the State Secretariat of Social Security.
Regional Social Security Centers and National Pension Center, administration of program.

Sickness and Maternity

First law: 1935 (1919 legislation not implemented).
Current law: 1984 (maternity) and 1988 (sickness).
Type of program: Social insurance system. Cash and medical benefits.

Coverage

Medical benefits: All residents.

Cash sickness benefits: Employed persons (self-employed, voluntary coverage).

Cash maternity benefits: Employed persons and self-employed. Voluntary insurance available to persons not covered by any other contributory program.

Source of Funds

Insured person: See pension contributions above.

Employer: Same.

Government: Same.

Qualifying Conditions

Cash sickness benefits: 6 months of insurance, including 12 days of contribution in the 4 months before onset of illness.

Maternity cash benefits: 6 months of contribution.

Sickness and Maternity Benefits

Sickness benefit: 65% of earnings in last 6 months (80% to 100% if hospitalized for tuberculosis). Benefit rises to 70 percent of earnings in case of long-term illness (at least 365 days).

Payable after 3-day waiting period (waived if hospitalized) for up to 1,095 days (no limit if tuberculosis); then automatically converted to permanent disability pension (above).

Minimum sickness benefit: 30% of minimum wage.

Maternity benefit: 100% of average earnings during last 6 months, payable 90 days before and 60 days after birth.

Minimum maternity benefit: 50% of minimum wage.

Workers' Medical Benefits

Medical benefits: Medical services provided directly to patients by health centers and by hospitals. Includes: general and specialist care, maternity care, hospitalization, surgery, and listed medicines.

Duration: Services provided as needed based on some patient participation.

Dependents' Medical Benefits

Medical benefits for dependents: Same as for insured worker.

Administrative Organization

Ministry of Labor and Social Security, general supervision through the State Secretariat of Social Security and Ministry of Health.

Regional Social Security Centers, administration of program (cash benefits).

Regional Health Administration, administration of program (medical benefits).

Work Injury

First law: 1913.

Current laws: 1965, 1971, 1992.

Type of program: Work injury: Employer must purchase liability insurance with private carrier.

Employment-related illness: Social insurance system.

Coverage

Employed persons.

Self-employed (voluntary).

Source of Funds

Insured person: None.

Employer: Work accidents: varies according to risk (average rate, 3% of payroll). Employment related illness: See pension contribution above.

Government: None.

Qualifying Conditions

Work-injury benefits: No minimum qualifying period.

Employment-related illness: According to risk based on official tables.

Temporary Disability Benefits

Temporary disability benefit: 1/3 of basic wage during 1st 3 days and 2/3 thereafter, payable until recovery or determination of permanent total disability. Temporary partial loss compensated at the rate of 2/3 of lost earning capacity.

Permanent Disability Benefits

Permanent disability pension: If total incapacity for work in usual profession, 1/2 to 2/3 of basic earnings, according to residual earnings capacity.

Survivor Benefits

Survivor pension: 30% of covered earnings to widow (or ex-spouse) or dependent widower, 40% if widow age 65 or disabled.

Orphans: 20% if 1 orphan, 40% if 2, or 50% if 3 or more orphans under age 18 (25 if student). Full orphans receive double benefits.

Funeral grant: Lump sum equal to 30 days' earnings. Benefit doubles if body must be transported.

Administrative Organization

Ministry of Finance, General supervision.

Insurance Carriers, manage work accident insurance policies.

Ministry of Employment and Social Security, general supervision through the Secretary of State for Social Security.

National Occupational Disease Insurance Fund, administration of occupational disease program.

Unemployment

First law: 1975.

Current laws: 1989 and 1993.

Type of program: Social insurance system.

Coverage

Employed persons and persons seeking first employment.

Exclusions: Self-employed, domestic employees, and temporary and occasional employees.

Source of Funds

Insured person: See pension contributions, above.

Employer: Same.

Government: Same.

Qualifying Conditions

Unemployment benefit: 540 days of earnings in the 24 months just before unemployment.

Social assistance unemployment benefit (income-tested): 180 days of earnings in the 12 months just before unemployment. Registration at employment office is required. Capable of and available for work. Unemployed involuntarily.

Unemployment Benefits

Unemployment benefit: 65% of average earnings.

Minimum benefit: 1 times minimum wage. Maximum: 3 times minimum wage. Duration: between 10 and 30 months depending on age of insured.

Social unemployment benefit: 70% of minimum wage if single.

Between 90-100% depending on size of family. Duration: between 5 and 15 months depending on age of insured.

For insured age 55 and over, the unemployment benefit is paid until age 60 when the unemployment benefit is converted to old-age benefit.

Administrative Organization

Ministry of Employment and Social Security, general supervision through the Secretary of State for Social Security.

Local administration by unemployment centers and regional social security centers.

Family Allowance Benefits

Family allowances: 2,580 escudos a month for each of first 2 children; 3,880 escudos for 3rd or more.

Special supplements for disabled children: 5,750 escudos a month if under age 14; 8,390 escudos if between ages 14 and 18; and 11,210 escudos if between ages 18 and 24.

Supplement for assistance provided by a third person: 9,650 escudos.

Birth grant: 22,930 escudos for each birth.

Nursing allowance: 4,220 escudos a month for 10 months.

Marriage grant: 19,060 escudos.

Funeral grant: 26,670 escudos.

Special supplement for low income parents taking leave to care for children: 65% of salary (paid under maternity benefits).

Administrative Organization

Ministry of Employment and Social Security, general supervision through the State Secretariat of Social Security.

Regional Social Security Centers, administration of programs.

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Family Allowances

First law: 1942.

Current laws: 1977, 1980, and 1991.

Type of program: Employment-related system.

Coverage

Employed persons, unemployed and pensioners.

Voluntary insurance available to certain categories of employed persons not covered by any other contributory program.

Source of Funds

Insured person: See pension contributions, above.

Employer: Same.

Government: Same.

Qualifying Conditions

Family allowances: Child must be under age 15 (25 if student, no limit if disabled).